

\*\*\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE FROM THE LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE\*\*\*\*\*

JULY 9, 2016

On July 8, 2016, pursuant to a court order, Lake County Detention Officers transported Michael Assiniboine Jr., an inmate at Lake County Jail, to his father's funeral in St. Ignatius. At the conclusion of services at approximately 1:30pm, the Officers began preparing Assiniboine to be transported back to the Detention facility. While beginning a pat-down procedure, the Officers noted that Assiniboine had something in his handcuffed hand. Assiniboine refused to release the item and began struggling with Officers until he was able to put the item in his mouth. A Taser was deployed on Assiniboine multiple times while the Officers fought him. Assiniboine bit the hand of one of the Officers during the struggle. Officers were eventually able to prevent Assiniboine from swallowing the item, which was later discovered to be a condom containing suspected Heroin, drug paraphernalia, and money.

Through the duration of this transport, Assiniboine was dressed in an orange Lake County Detention jumpsuit, handcuffed with a belly-chain, as well as ankle cuffed to prevent escape. Assiniboine was never allowed to be outside of the immediate reach of the Officers; however, hugs with family were allowed upon his departure, which is when the drugs were discovered by the Officers.

Assiniboine has been charged with Felony Possession of Dangerous Drugs, Assault on a Peace Officer, and Resisting Arrest as a result. His original charges for his incarceration are two counts of Burglary, Theft, Felony Possession of Dangerous Drugs, Resisting Arrest, Bail-jumping, and Criminal Contempt.

Donald R. Bell  
Sheriff